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REPUBLIC MINISTRIES OF MUNICIPAL SERVICES IN THE USSR

[Comment: This report contains information on the organization, functions, and personnel of republic Ministries of Municipal Services in the USSR. At different periods many of the ministries have been merged with Ministries of Housing and Civil Construction in their respective republics.]

Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

Scope of Ministries of Municipal Services

The Constitution of the USSR makes provision for Ministries of Municipal Services in the system of republic ministries, i.e., ministries subordinate to the Councils of Ministers of the respective republics.

Administration of municipal services is decentralized and is carried out in accordance with the peculiarities of each union and autonomous republic and the local peculiarities of each kray, oblast, rayon, and city. However, this operational independence rests on a very strict subordination to planning and financial control by all-union organizations.(1)

The Ministries of Municipal Services of union and autonomous republics exercise general direction and control over municipal services, plan operations and construction of branches of municipal services, provide materials and technical equipment, and determine the technical policy in each branch.

Municipal services include the following: city power systems (municipal electric power stations, municipal electric power transmission lines, district heating systems, municipal gas plants); city passenger and freight transportation (subway, trolley, trolley bus, bus, taxi, river ferry); sanitation and hygiene services (water supply, sewage disposal, garbage-rubbish disposal, bath houses, laundries, barber shops); and hospitals, kolkhos homes, markets, and management of lands belonging to cities.

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In administering city lands, organizations of municipal services are responsible for city planning and the planning, construction, and maintenance of squares, streets, sidewalks, quays, bridges, beaches, gardens, parks, boulevards, tree and flower nurseries, and for the plantings in squares and along streets.(2)

Ministry of Municipal Services RSFSR

The Ministry of Municipal Services RSFSR directs the development of housing and municipal services in cities, workers' settlements, and vacation and health resorts. It controls the housing and municipal services of local soviets, introduces modern techniques, improvements, and inventions, organizes production of municipal equipment, and renders aid in the improvement of rural rayon centers.

The ministry was organized with main administrations for each branch of activity, a planning and finance administration, and a number of divisions.

The Ministry of Municipal Services RSFSR controls trusts and enterprises of republic subordination directly, and trusts and enterprises of local (including ASSR) subordination through kray (oblast) divisions of municipal economy, through administrations of the city soviets in cities of republic subordination, and through the Ministries of Municipal Economy in the autonomous republics.

The minister appoints chiefs, chief engineers, and chief accountants of the ministry and of enterprises directly subordinate to the ministry and confirms heads appointed by kray (oblast) divisions of municipal services, etc.

The ministry manages the Academy of Municipal Services with its two scientific research institutes at Leningrad and Rostov.

The Ministries of Municipal Services of the ASSRs are subordinate to both the Council of Ministers of their ASSR and also the Ministry of Municipal Services RSFSR. This is also true in the Georgian SSR, Uzbek SSR, and Azerbaydzhan SSR.

Kray (oblast) divisions of municipal services in the RSFSR are subordinate to both kray (oblast) soviets of workers' deputies and to the Ministry of Municipal Services RSFSR.

In the constitutions of the union and autonomous republics a uniform structural system for municipal organs is maintained from top to bottom. The constitutions invest the local soviets of workers' deputies, their executive committees, and the organizations subordinate to them -- the municipal divisions -- with direct operational control of municipal services.(1)

In 1952 the Ministry of Municipal Services RSFSR had 26 tekhnikums.(2)

The Ministry of Municipal Services RSFSR maintained the following main administrations in Moscow in 1948:

Glavnoye Upravleniye Banno-Prachechnogo i Parikmakherskogo Khozyaystva
(Main Administration of Baths, Laundries, and Barber Shops)

Glavnoye Upravleniye Blagoustroystva Gorodov (Main Administration of City Improvements)

Glavvodokanal (Main Administration of Water Supply and Sewer System)

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Glavnoye Upravleniye Gostinichnogo Khozyaystva (Main Administration of Hotels)

Glavdormost (Main Administration of Roads and Bridges)

Glavnoye Upravleniye Zhilishchnogo Khozyaystva (Main Administration of Housing)

Glavnoye Upravleniye Kommunal'nogo Oborudovaniya (Main Administration of Municipal Equipment)

Glavproyekt (Main Administration of Planning Organizations)

Glavremstroy (Main Administration of Repair and Construction Trusts)

Glavvurs (Main Administration of Workers' Supply)

Glavtramvay (Main Administration of Trolleys and Trolley Buses)

GUUZ (Main Administration of Educational Institutions)

Glavenergo (Main Power Administration) (3)

In 1952, the Ministry of Municipal Services RSFSR had a Glavnoye Upravleniye Inzhenernogo i Sanitarnogo Blagoustroystva (Main Administration of Engineering and Sanitary Improvements).(4)

In 1953, the Ministry of Municipal Services RSFSR had a Glavnoye Upravleniye Gazifikatsii Gorodov (Main Administration for City Gas Supply).(5)

In 1954, there was a Glavnoye Upravleniye Kommunal'nogo Obsluzhivaniya i Blagoustroystva Gorodov (Main Administration of Municipal Services and City Improvements) in the ministry.(6)

Other ministerial organizations located in Moscow in 1948 were:

Tsentral'naya Inspektsiya Kotlonadzora (Central Office for Boiler Inspection)

Moskovskaya Mezhhoblastnaya Inspektsiya Kotlonadzora [Moscow Office of Interblast Boiler Inspection?]

Upravleniye Material'no-Tekhnicheskogo Snabzheniya (Administration of Material and Technical Supply).(3)

Organizations subordinate to the Ministry of Municipal Services RSFSR in 1954 include a Tekhnicheskoye Upravleniye (Technical Administration) and BRIZ (Byuro Sodeystviya Ratsionalizatsii i Izobretatel'stva, Bureau for Coordination of Improvements and Inventions).(6)

The following trusts and offices of the Ministry of Municipal Services RSFSR were located in Moscow in 1948:

Gosvodokanalproyekt (State Trust for Research and Planning of City Water Supply and Drainage Systems)

Goszelenkhoz (State Trust for Landscaping)

Gosinzhgorproyekt (State Trust for Planning Municipal and Housing Construction Projects)

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Dortransproyekt (Republic Office of Road-Transport Structures)

Kommunenergoprojekt (Office for Planning Municipal Electric Power Stations)

Rossnabsbyt [Republic Sales and Supply Trust?]

Energozapchast' (State Republic Trust of the Main Power Administration) [probably supplies spare parts for power equipment].

In 1952, Filippov was chief of Glavenergo, Sveshnikov was chief of the Main Administration of Municipal Equipment, Yegorov was chief of the Main Administration of Engineering and Sanitary Improvements, Volochnev was chief of Glavtramvay, and Shchegoleva was chief of GUUZ. (4)

In 1953, P. Zarovnyy was chief of the Main Administration for City Gas Supply. (5)

Ministry of Municipal Services Georgian SSR

The Ministry of Municipal Services Georgian SSR was created by ukase of 16 January 1954. Karl Isaakovich Barilyan was named Minister of Municipal Services Georgian SSR. This ministry had formerly been part of the Ministry of Municipal Services and Housing and Civil Construction Georgian SSR. (7)

Ministry of Municipal Services Lithuanian SSR

In July 1953, Ya. Svishchev was Minister of Municipal Services Lithuanian SSR. (8)

In April 1952, V. Astar'yev was Deputy Minister of Municipal Services Lithuanian SSR. (9)

Ministry of Municipal Services Moldavian SSR

In July 1953, T. Troyan was Minister of Municipal Services Moldavian SSR. (10)

Ministry of Municipal Services Turkmen SSR

In March 1954, M. Charyyev was Minister of Municipal Services Turkmen SSR. (11)

Ministry of Municipal Services Ukrainian SSR

In November 1951, A. I. Selivanov was Minister of Municipal Services Ukrainian SSR. (12)

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